



Customer Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting Minutes St. Louis, Missouri – June 26-27, 2007

CAB AGENCY ATTENDEES

American Battle Monument Commission (ABMC)
Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (USDA, FSA)
Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, Credit Commodity Corporation (USDA, FSA, CCC)
Department of Agriculture, National Finance Center (USDA, NFC)
Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA, RD)
Department of Energy, Oakridge (DOE, Oakridge)
Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (DHHS, CDC)
Department of Homeland Security, Immigration Customs Enforcement (DHS, ICE)
Department of Homeland Security, US Coast Guard, Elizabeth City (DHS, USCG, Elizabeth City)
Department of Homeland Security, US Coast Guard, Topeka (DHS, USCG, Topeka)
Department of Interior, Minerals Management Service (DOI, MMS)
Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (DOJ, FBI)
Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas (EPA, Las Vegas)
Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park (EPA, RTP)
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (FRB, Minneapolis)
General Services Administration (GSA)
Internal Revenue Service, Beckley (IRS, Beckley)
Social Security Administration, Baltimore (SSA, Baltimore)
U.S. Courts

KFC ATTENDEES AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (FRB, Boston)
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (FRB, Kansas City)
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (FRB, St. Louis)
Department of Justice, St. Louis (DOJ, St. Louis)
National Park Service, St. Louis (NPS, St. Louis)
Vice President of Community Relations, St. Louis Cardinals

Tuesday, June 26, 2007

CAB Chairperson Joe Vitale, USDA-National Finance Center, welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending the June 2007 CAB meeting.

Kansas City Financial Center (KFC) Director Gary Beets also welcomed the group and announced that KFC had one hundred percent customer satisfaction for the 2006 customer service survey. Gary thanked all the agencies for their feedback and ensured that KFC is servicing their customers in the right way. Gary mentioned the discussions at the fall 2006 CAB meeting regarding enhancements to SPS. Joe Vitale and the CAB Members compiled a letter of the SPS change recommendations for Wanda Rogers, RO Assistant Commissioner, and this enhancement is targeted for March 2008. Gary said that this is what the purpose of the CAB is for, to listen to our customers and hear their concerns and needs.

Gary said that there is a merger to bring Financial Operations and Regional Operations together in October 2007. Gary Grippo who is the Assistant Commissioner (AC) for Fed Finance, which oversees cash management, was just selected as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fiscal Operations and Policy (DA). Gary Grippo's replacement has not yet been announced.

Round Table – Introductions – CAB Members

After all introductions were made, Joe mentioned the meeting minutes from the December CAB have been provided in this year's CAB binder. There was a call to review the minutes and the CAB members were asked for any changes or revisions. There were no changes made to the minutes. There was a motion to accept which was seconded and approved.

Presentations

Internet Payment Platform – Teresa Ricoy, FRB, Boston

Teresa provided a very informative presentation on what Internet Payment Platform (IPP) is and the benefits it provides to the agencies.

Q- Does IPP operate off the TWAI or is it located somewhere else?

A- IPP does operate off of the TWAI.

Q- Original invoices have to be tracked and submitted; is this electronic version acceptable yet?

A- We are working to allow the electronic version to be acceptable.

Q- FBI is working with DOJ on a unified Financial Management Accounting System payment procuring process to be implemented I believe sometime in 2010. How is that going?

A- We are not currently in talks with them because IPP is digitalized, they are there to display the information, and we are not the system of record.

Q- Does the IPP system keep the information that the agency has? Is there a reconciliation database that keeps the information in sync?

A- Any time there are changes they are uploaded which would be part of the reconciliation process.

Q- This is an information based system that would be downloading information to the financial system; what are the security measures that are being put into place?

A- The IPP is based on the TWAI and the TWAI would take care of all security aspects.

Q- Will you still have PAID?

A- By 2008 or 2009 we will be substituting IPP for PAID.

Q- Will IPP only maintain domestic payments or will it be available for foreign payments as well?

A- Right now this is only available for domestic payments; foreign payments will be included in future deployments and all payments will have to be through EFT

Q- Is it correct that IPP will not interact with CCR?

A- We will not interact with CCR. We are keeping this only on the agency side.

Q- If a vendor becomes inactive what steps need to be taken to remove them from the list?

A- Once we receive information from the agency of an inactive vendor, we will remove them from the master list of vendors.

White Collar Crime – Andrew Lay, DOJ, St. Louis

Andrew provided several real-life white collar crime stories on various crime and felony cases. Stories ranged from bank robbery, grocery store robbery, credit card, currency, and pharmacy fraud. It is always amazing to hear what individuals think they can get away with.

History of the Gateway Arch – Bob Moore, NPS, St. Louis

Bob Moore, a public historian for the National Park Service in St. Louis, Missouri, provided an overview of the Gateway Arch. We were educated on all aspects of the Arch; from its design background, structural engineering, safety record and inspections, and cost to build and operate. This provided an excellent segue for our afternoon tour of the Gateway Arch.

Meeting Adjourned

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

Kansas City Regional Financial Center Updates

Francie Abbott, Financial Services and Support Branch (FSSB)

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Financial Operations Activities

- **Foreign Payments**
 - Processed 24,916 payments totaling \$180.4 million in FY 2007.
- **Preauthorized Debits (PAD)**
 - Processed 6.7 million collections totaling \$2.1 billion in FY 2007.
 - Currently have 23 customers.

Special Achievements/Accomplishments During 2007

- **ASAP.gov**
 - ***Implemented ASAP.gov Release 4.0***

This release incorporated Federal agency enrollment functionality to ASAP.gov, which streamlines the ASAP Federal agency enrollment and maintenance process. Deployed on April 28, 2007.
 - ***Developing PKI (digital signature) functionality.***

ASAP.gov team in Washington working to implement PKI (digital signature) functionality.
- **ITS.gov**
 - ***Implemented Release 6.1***

This release fixed various bugs, updated functionality to better reflect user needs, and implemented WebSphere 6.0.

 - Release 6.2 will be implemented on July 7th. This release will fix various bugs and update functionality to meet user needs.
 - ***Implemented ITS.gov to agencies***

To date, 24 agencies have been implemented and 6 agencies have been contacted to begin the implementation process.
 - ***Current Initiatives***
 - Digital Signature functionality - anticipated deployment is FY 2008.
 - Adding special handling check processing functionality to ITS.gov (September 2007).
 - FRB is migrating Low Value payments (ABMC, GSA) from mainframe to ITS.gov. This should be completed by the end of 2007.
 - Transmitting payment files directly to ITS.gov – implementation date and process still to be discussed.
- **PAD**
 - Currently have 22 customers collecting nearly \$3 billion/year.
 - Trained National Park Service – Grand Teton on June 12th. Awaiting first file. This brings total customers count to 23.

CLAIMS

Internet Cancellations

To date, 146 ALC's converted to production out of 198 ALCs.

Teletrace

- 24,300 cases worked and closed so far this year.
- 92% were closed within five days.
- We've been able to recover \$742,000 in misdirected funds on behalf of SSA.

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE STAFF

Help Desk Unit

- Answered over 10,000 calls since the first of the year.
- We have two new Help Desk employees who started in April – Annette Gomez and Amber Janouschek. Please see the KFC Dispatch in the CAB binder for an article about our Help Desk.
- Two employees went to 9 cities in the Midwest to participate in workshops sponsored by Mid-America Payment Exchange (MPX), which are presentations to financial institutions on the Green Book regarding ACH.

- Participated in Forward Challenge 2007, the Treasury-wide continuity of government exercise.
- Took the lead for the FMS Customer Service Survey – thanks to all of the CAB members and those from their agencies who participated – your feedback is very valuable.
- Processed 351 items for \$3.4 million as requested by customer agencies to have funds returned.

Susan Johnson, Administrative Branch (AMB)

A MID-YEAR REPORT FINDS:

- Full compliance with the President's Management Agenda and Treasury goals on financial performance indicators.
 - 1 day close on Statement of Accountability (SF-1219).
 - 2 day close on Statement of Transactions (SF-224).
 - Statement of Differences reconciled within three months.
 - Budget expenditures on target with RO-Headquarters goals.
- FINANCIAL AUDITS AND ANALYSIS
 - Movement to Electronic Deposits.
 - Clifton Gunderson Audit awaiting results.
- Administration continues to produce results with the 2007 Reach for the Stars campaign on streamlining work processes based on stakeholder and customer service requirements.
- Active Human Resource Programs included amended 2007 performance plans linking elements to the Strategic Plan, active Annual Incentive Awards Program, rollout of HR Connect enhancements, beginning utilization of Career Connector software and enhancement of our on-site training program access and capability.
- Building management significant retirement of Carole Kelley. Crystal Duckworth is currently transitioning with numerous training programs. Building projects and response included:
 - KFC Contingency response power outage due to power line disruption. Revise diesel fuel provider due to insufficient response time.
 - A variety of 15 different building improvement or repair projects.
- Physical Security enhancements included:
 - Preparation of 2007 C & A on security system with revised format.
 - June 2007, participation in the FMS Business Continuity Exercise (Forward Challenge).
 - Improved SBU documentation.
 - KFC Contingency event - ChemCentral Explosion response.

Denise Quirarte, Electronic Operations Branch (EOB)

SPS:

- New SPS release is scheduled to be available Monday, July 23. It contains new functionality associated with Same Day Payment Requests (SDPR). A copy of the change highlights were included in the folder.
 - New arrangement of fields under "TOP Offset" category.
 - TOP Offset Eligibility box and Payee ID/TIN field.
 - Top Offset warning message popup when un-checking the eligibility box.
 - TIN matching against TOP database for SDPR payments.
 - Popup notification on TIN match in TOP indicating that an ACH or Check payment must be created.
 - Popup warning when a non-9 digit data is entered in the Payee ID/TIN field. DEO must confirm that a 9 digit TIN is not available and not required by Treasury TIN policies.
 - Popup notification for large dollar payments over \$50 million. Provides notification that Fund Control must be notified of large dollar payments.
- SPS Customer Survey conducted in March 2007.
 - KFC customers rated the system as Very Satisfied or Satisfied in all areas.
 - Areas rated as very satisfied: Ease of Use, Functionality, Timely, Security, and Output Accurate.
 - Area rated as Satisfied: Availability.
- Annual SPS User Recertification – Completed in March.
 - KFC responsible for administrative actions in SPS and DSSV.

Programming:

- Offset of CTX payments:
 - Agencies are required to make changes to the CTX payment files submitted to the RFCs.
 - Flat file changes:
 - Line code in field 4: "V" for Vendor, "M" for Miscellaneous.
 - Eligible for offset code in field 12: "Y" for Eligible, "N" for Not Eligible.
 - All agency programming to be completed and tested by November 1, 2007.

- Offset will begin December 1, 2007 for all CTX files.
- A copy of the notice from November 2006 is in the folder.
- KFC will be contacting all current CTX customers to follow up on changes and arrange testing.
- KFC contact for testing is Connie Borchers (816-414-2336).
- Agency Connectivity:
 - Reminder that all agencies need to ensure that they have connectivity to KROC as well as HROC.
 - For disaster recovery purposes supporting payments currently running on HEOC.
 - HROC is scheduled for closure in October 2009. KROC will be the primary payments processing site. Payments processing moving to KROC with the implementation of PAM.
 - The FMS preferred connectivity document provided to agencies with a November 14, 2006 letter.
 - KFC contacts on connectivity are Eugene Phillips (2328) and Paul Jackson (2310).
- Disaster Recovery Exercise – June 23, 2007
 - Tested processing of SSI Monthly, SSA Monthly, and SSA Cycling Replacements on HROC in the event of an outage at KROC.
- The programming staff continues to support legacy payment applications, production processing, and new initiatives such as IPP, CTX Offset, and Connect Direct to the FRB.
- PAM:
 - KFC programming staff is heavily involved in PAM requirements identification and documentation, application development, system acceptance testing, and a number of other areas.
 - We will perform interface testing with the FRB for ACH files and PACER for issue and accounting information.
 - We are working closely with SSI to plan and prepare for testing and implementation.
 - Test plan for End-to-End testing with SSI includes:
 - Agency creation of test files. New file names for processing through Input Management.
 - Payment processing with ACH through PAM and Checks through Legacy.
 - FEDACH testing with the FRB.
 - PACER processing of Non-receipts, dispositions, cancellations, and notifications of change.
 - Testing of changes associated with SSN suppression on the ACH files created by PAM.
 - Testing to begin late summer / early fall.

Dwight Sage, Electronic Operations Branch (EOB)

Business Continuity Planning (BCP):

- We have completed several business continuity exercises this year, ensuring that payment processing can continue smoothly between Regional Financial Centers in the event of a disaster.

COMBO

- We are testing a couple more upgrades (VIDEK and development systems) to our COMBO printing systems this year, to support advancing technology and improve our printing process.

Payment Processing

- We continue to focus on processing all agency payments accurately, on time, every time.
- Continuing to provide support to the PAM project.

Personnel

- Jerome Verduco, who was the Evening Shift Supervisor, is now the Payment Control Supervisor, replacing David Benningfield.

Regina Donaldson, Payment Facilities Branch (PFB)

Intelligent Mail Vision

- Will provide end to end visibility and a seamless process for mail acceptance and delivery.
- Using standardized intelligent barcodes.
- Continuous mail tracking.
- Mail quality feedback in real-time.

Intelligent Barcode

- Introduced last September.

- Required in 2009, for automation discounts.
- Read rate is higher because the barcode is placed more than once within the code.
- Will enable USPS to use one code for all the special services (Certified, Address Change, etc).
- Uniquely identifies the sender, the mail piece and the mailer services.
- Provides a destination Zip Code for sortation and routing.
- That includes Intelligent Barcodes on mail piece, Intelligent Tray Barcodes and Intelligent Container Barcodes.

Delivery Point Validation (DPV)

- Confirms an address as being deliverable by USPS.
- Confirms an address as a Commercial Mail Receiving Agency.
- Identifies potentially undeliverable addresses on a mailing list prior to mailing.
- Required use with Cass and Mass Certified Zip+4 address Matching Software effective August 1, 2007.

Main Reasons for DPV

- According to the USPS 13.7% of Americans move each year.
- 19.3% of all businesses move each year.
- 144 million delivery points in USPS database.
- 1.8 million new addresses added each year.
- In 2005 USPS processed 211.7 billion mail pieces, of which 5.6 billion were undeliverable-as-addressed.
- \$2 billion dollar loss to return to sender or manually process (huge problem for the USPS).

Locatable Address Conversion System (LACSlink)

- Provides addresses converted by local governments and municipalities.
- Includes address changes due to the implementations of the Emergency Response (“911”) Systems .
- USPS only delivers mail with old address for one year.
- Required use Effective August 1, 2007.

Coming Soon!!!

- Suitelink.
- Designed to correct or append suite information for business addresses on mailing list.
- Stoplink.
- Allows mailers to compare their mailing lists against a database that contains addresses that cannot be delivered due to damages caused by natural disasters or other extreme situations (Katrina).
- First Class mailers are encouraged to use Stoplink

Approximately \$111,000 in presort savings on the Presort machine January thru June. CWS area wrapped 14 million checks over the normal processing volume this TAX season with no over time.

Jesse Chavez, Pam Project

Project Status/Milestones

Elaboration Phase (Jan – Fourth Quarter CY)

- Candidate Architecture presented to Division Information Officer (DIO) and Architecture Review Board (ARB)
- Development Activities
- Ready FMS Computing Environments
- FISMA Certification & Accreditation (C&A) Planning
- OMB 300B Baseline Change Request
- Complete Elaboration Phase development iterations as well as QA and Performance Testing
- Seek DIO and ARB approval of final architecture
- Develop recommended training strategy for RFC staff

Construction Phase – Release 1.0 Activities (Aug 06-End of 2007)

- Define Release 1.0 Functionality
- Begin Group 2 FMS Developer training
- Best and Final Offer from development contractor for Release 1.0
- Assess knowledge transfer activities
- Complete 1.0 Construction Activities, QA and UA testing, as well as FISMA C&A activities

Requirements Effort

- Use Cases
 - PAM's Requirements Group has been working closely with SSA Cycling. SSA Cycling will be the first files to be run through PAM for testing given that their volume yields important test criteria. To prepare for this, the Requirements Group is verifying the input file specifications and the associated validation rules with subject matter experts in SSA cycling, including agency staff. This group is working to get all system requirements and validations on paper so they can be given to the developers to use in writing code.
 - The Use Cases being worked on currently are for SSA cycling input files. They are working through the process of accepting SPS certifications, validating them and then having PAM match it to the SSA cycling file.
- Payment Matrix
 - The Requirements Group is also developing a matrix of the various payment types and corresponding agencies that will reflect which file formats are used most frequently and will ultimately help determine the sequence of payment types to be released.
 - There are currently 32 payment types (file formats) coming from 200 agencies

PAM Payment Processing Flow

- Agencies will not be affected by the PAM effort. We have purchased a tool that will convert your current file formats to the PAM file format. PAM will make the processing of incoming occur much more quickly.
 - Manual matches for schedules will become automated
 - There will not be matching to send to TOP as this too will become automated
 - A word of caution, since we are automating the internal payment process. There will be less time to reverse files that have been sent to us. PAM will basically be reducing the lag time between processes.

PAM Payment Format

- PAM team members will be meeting with GWA in Hyattsville at the end of June to lock in requirements information. We are working with GWA to incorporate the TAS/BETC combinations into our PAM format. Once that is completed we will make sure we pass that information.

Testing

- Process of testing
 - Before the first production release PAM will use acceptance testing, parallel testing and also implement training.
 - After the first production release there will be co-operating between PAM and Legacy payments. There will be new releases approximately every six months until all Legacy applications have been eliminated. Finally, testing and training will continue on PAM as well as on any new features.
- Stress load test, interfaces and outputs and DR or Business Continuity will be tested
- We will inform each agency when testing on their files will begin. This will be once we have a rollout schedule, which is to be completed in August

Stakeholder Updates

- Since December of 05, we have successfully met with all four regional financial center's Customer Advisory Boards and the four RFC EOB employees providing an update and a status of the PAM project.
- We have also met with all Directors, as they are the business owners, making sure we have RFC buy-in and just to make sure we address any issues and concerns early on through PAM development. We want to make sure they realize the time and efforts of all supporting resources helping with development, gathering of business requirements, testing and later with training.

Implementation Schedule

- There will be a rollout schedule completed and distributed in the Third Quarter

Presentations

Governmentwide Accounting (GWA) – Mike Norman, FMS, Washington

Mike provided a detailed and informative update on the Governmentwide Accounting Modernization Project and the importance of becoming a GWA player and the changes that it involves.

Agencies can contact the FRB of St. Louis for the collections side and for a cash flow analysis.

Q- Business Partner Number, is this part of the ALC?

A- This is part of the Business partner agreement and is mandatory of the Business Partner Rules and everyone must have a BPN, it is below the ALC and you can have multiple BPNs. This is trying to help find one code for every transaction.

Q- Will Treasury offer to see the ending account balance?

A- Contact information provided (Mamie Goodwin and Senita Beverly).

Q- Prior period accounts are not available for budgetary side, why do we have to use them?

A- General ledger questions could not be answered by Mike Norman, he provided contact Jeff Hoge's name and phone number.

Q- STAR access issues .

A- ATM Module. August 2007 ATM comes up and could get access then.

Secure Payment System (SPS) – Margaret Flynn, FMS, Washington

Margaret provided a discussion on payments interfacing with GWA.

Q- When the file format is released, how long do the agencies have to comply with the new GWA format?

A- That date is not driven by GWA. GWA will work with the agencies to create timelines.

Q- After October 2009 if a payment is returned will it have the TAS/BETC information on that return?

A- Yes, after October 2009.

Q-What happens if there is an exception to the TAS/BETC, who will catch the error?

A- SPS will be validating the TAS/BETC. It will be up to GWA and the agencies to correct the TAS/BETC issues .

Q- Where to go to find updates for GWA and SPS?

A- GWA website, SPS website both post format updates.

Payment Application Modernization (PAM) – Julie Jensen, FMS, Kansas City and Lisa Ford, FRB, Kansas City

Julie and Lisa provided an informative presentation on the status of PAM projects as well as its impact to agencies.

Q- Is PAM going to require agencies to have SLAs/MOUs prior to releasing payments to PAM?

A- No, PAM is not requiring any SLAs, but there are agencies that have current SLAs with their servicing RFCs and if these need to be altered due to PAM, we will work with them to do so

Q- What if you do not transition to GWA by the October 2009 deadline?

A- This date is not yet mandated, so there will be no impact to agencies, however there is a good chance that at some point this date will become mandated, but it may not be the October deadline

Q- With the free flowing files, does this mean once a file is certified we cannot uncertify, if there are corrections that need to be made?

A- The free flowing file does not mean it will be processed immediately once it is certified, but there will no longer be waiting for end of the day processing, if you want to send a file and then hold off prior to sending the certification; PAM will not process the payment until we have both. Technically though, once we have the certification the file should be ready to be processed.

Q- Will PAM have any impact on ITS.gov and SPS and entering both separately?

A- PAM will have nothing to do with ITS.gov; we are working to have a token so that if you process a payment through ITS.gov you will not have to go through SPS as well.

Q- If the files are free flowing, will the pay dates be changing?

A- No, the pay dates that are included in the files will still be valid.

Building a Sense of Community – Marty Hendin, Vice President of Community Relations for the St. Louis Cardinals

Mr. Hendin shared several examples of what the St. Louis Cardinals do as a team to support their community and the impact this has on others. He explained the various activities and events that the St. Louis Cardinals are involved in and the many memories he has made during his 34 years working for the team.

ReclaTrace – Paul Levee, SSA, Baltimore

Paul provided an informative presentation on the new ReclaTrace project that is expected to streamline the reclamation process at SSA.

Q- Do you make any efforts to go after those who are taking the payments after someone has died?

A- It is not financially possible to go after all those cases, if the payments are for a larger amount of money then the case could be turned over to the Secret Service, but usually the money amounts are not.

Q- How are you going to handle the partial reclamations?

A- We will work with those, but they would be handled differently then the full reclamations.

Q- Is there not a more generalized system that provides all the notices of death?

A- No, there is a master record but these notifications come from several different sources including funeral homes, hospitals, etc.

Q- Are there other conditions that you could use this for?

A- Yes, if someone was not disabled but they were claiming and receiving disability then we could use this system to recover payments.

Open Discussion

Q- What percentage of EPA payments is ASAP versus ACH?

A- ASAP payments make up 58% of EPA's payments; the remaining 42% of payments are made via ACH.

Q- Is there another avenue to getting help to the Treasury systems other than the Treasury Help Desk?

A- It is suggested trying the Regional Financial Center Help Desk (Customer Assistance Service Help Desk which supports everything other than SPS) prior to the Treasury Wide Help Desk.

Q- SPS sign off form, having issues getting this together and who has the authority and how it is delegated

A- There is not another particular level that the authority has to stay, it is an agency designated authority, Denise was not aware how low of a level that this authority can be designated.

Closing Remarks

Joe mentioned that the next CAB meeting will be in Kansas City, Missouri on December 4th and 5th, 2007 at Harrah's Hotel and Casino. He also mentioned that a tour of the Kansas City Financial Center is planned. He asked that all CAB attendees email their agency updates to Lauren Ray. Joe thanked Debbie Byrd, Vice Chair, for keeping him on time, the CASS staff for coordinating the meeting and KFC for hosting. He wished everyone a safe trip home.

Gary mentioned that the leadership agencies orchestrate is what keeps the CAB meeting going. He thanked everyone for attending and for their time and travel commitment. Gary explained that the CAB is coming up on 15 years of meetings. He asked that attendees please return their feedback and evaluation forms. He also stressed that everyone should remember the CAB meeting is *your* board meeting. Gary continued by assuring members that KFC wants to hear from you on ideas for topics and speakers. He also wished everyone safe travels and looks forward to seeing everyone again in December.

Meeting Adjourned

Agency Updates

DHS,ICE

Brandi McCleese

Department of Homeland Security Immigrations Customs and Enforcement Office of Financial Management currently process reconciliations and financial statements for six instances to include 120 Treasury Account Symbols. In FY 06 the FBWT area received a clean audit opinion, for FY 07 the FBWT area has created a Monitoring Financial Action Plan and we expect to receive another clean audit in the FBWT area. Currently our biggest initiative is the verification and validation efforts in the account payable/open document file area.

USDA, NFC

Joe Vitale

In September 2006 USDA announced it had selected the Denver Financial Center (DFC) as NFC's primary processing site. NFC is scheduled to migrate its primary computer processing site from Sungard-Philadelphia on August 18, 2007. Our backup site will be located at NFC.

Ron Parent retired in January 2007.

Like other agencies, NFC is involved with A-123 control audits.

We have updated our DR, COOP and BCP. We are ready for the 2007 hurricane season, which began June 1. Establishing an improved imaging process for essential documents so that we can increase service levels during deployment.

GWA Migration – coordinating a meeting with FMS GWA staff in July to address Payment and Collection migration issues common among e-Payroll providers.

The National Finance Center's (NFC) Director, Cyrus G. "Jerry" Lohfink was selected by President Bush as a 2006 Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Executive. Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates a small group of career Senior Executives with the President's Rank Award for exceptional long-term accomplishments.

SSA, Division of Benefit Certification and Accounting, Treasury Operations Branch

Melissa Talbot

A snapshot of the monthly Treasury Operations Branch (TOB) Supplemental Security Income (SSI) workload is from March 2007:

The Philadelphia Treasury Regional Financial Center generates Payment History Correction (PHC) files and sends them to the Department of Treasury office in Hyattsville, MD, which in turn transmits the files to SSA.

The SSA Office of Applications and Supplemental Security Income Systems (OASSIS) ran 31,018 payment files. Of those files, TOB received a sum of 1,020 exceptions totaling \$708,524.37 overall. That was an average of 49 PHC exceptions per day.

TOB has been working with OASSIS to streamline this process. Our goals are to update our systems and methods to allow more items to process with fewer exceptions.

TOB is the only unit in SSA that processes SSI direct deposit reclamation forms. TOB works directly with the San Francisco Treasury Regional Financial Center. TOB really enjoys the good working relationship we have with Patricia Butler's Reclamation Unit.

In March 2007, TOB received and processed 268 remittance items from a FMS-133 totaling \$266,719.23 credits to the agency and TOB received and processed 456 FMS-135 totaling \$261,818.68 credits to the agency.

Finally, TOB works with the Kansas City Treasury Regional Financial Center on Teletrace problem cases. A few of the outstanding KFC employees that TOB regularly works with are Kathy Bullard, Vicki Haddad and Jill Hotham.

GSA

Jane Pritchett

On June 7, 2007 the General Services Administration named four firms as winners of its competitive, government-wide GSA SmartPay2 charge-card service contracts. Awardees are: Citibank N.A. of Sioux Falls, S.D.; GE Capital Financial Inc. of Salt Lake City, Utah; JPMorgan Chase N.A. of New York, N.Y. and U.S. Bankcorp of Minneapolis, Minn.

The General Services Administration, Federal Acquisition Service implemented the payment module in the Transportation Management Services Solution (TMSS) in May 2007. TMSS is a comprehensive system that automates the shipment process, delivery confirmation, transportation bill audit and invoice processing. The payment module automated the invoice processing for transportation bills.

USDA/Farm Service Agency – Farm Loan Program
Erin Greco, Carolyn Lane, Betty Nunnery, Deborah Stokes

DCIA Accomplishments - FSA Farm Loan Programs is in compliance on eight of the nine DCIA provisions. The ninth provision's, Wage Garnishment, implementation is pending publication of the USDA regulations. FSA's delinquency rate in Farm Loan Programs (FLP) continues to drop due to our aggressive debt collection programs, which are in compliance with DCIA. **Direct Loans:** FLP direct loan programs continue to be 100% compliant with the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) and the Treasury Cross Servicing program. Over \$79 million has been collected for delinquent debt in fiscal year 2007 through various debt collection programs. **Guaranteed Loans:** The number of eligible FSA FLP guaranteed debts referred to TOP continued to increase during the 2007 fiscal year, totaling over \$15 million to date. Collections for the 2007 fiscal year total over \$160 thousand through TOP, the Internal Administrative Offset program, DOJ, voluntary payments and Lender Recovery collections.

Major initiatives include:

- The transition of co-debtor data coding into the new Treasury Fed Debt system for Treasury Cross Servicing to connect the co-debtor with the primary debtor for joint and several liability status;
- Modification and implementation of changes to the commercial credit bureau reporting process to send the data electronically instead of via magnetic tape. FLP data is now being reported to 2 Commercial Credit Repositories via encrypted electronic file. For Direct and Guaranteed FLP, no data is being sent to Experian commercial credit repository due to Equifax charging a referral fee. The FSA Finance Office is waiting for guidance from FSA Headquarters regarding the payment of the fee to Equifax; and
- Modification and implementation of the TOP 60 Day Due Process Letter to reflect the new offset payment programs of state tax refunds and state vendor payments. Debtors who have debts that were newly selected for referral in June will be mailed the modified Due Process Letter on July 10, 2007. FSA will mail notifications to debtors who are currently in TOP to notify them of the new payment programs.

EFT Disbursements- EFT Disbursements for the Direct and Guaranteed Loan programs of FSA have averaged 94% of all disbursements so far this fiscal year. We continue to emphasize the need for electronic disbursements in our loan programs.

Remittance Express Account- We now have the REX account established and are beginning to receive collections for both our direct and guaranteed loan programs through this account. Those collections include diary assignments for producers as well as normal borrower collections.

Secured Payment System- At the last meeting Carolyn Lane mentioned we were implementing the functions of Certifying Officer, Data Entry Operators and TRA's to allow us to independently disburse through SPS those disbursements that were previously processed through Rural Development's certification process. We successfully established these positions and have been assuming the disbursement responsibilities since February.

A-123- We are in the second year of the OMB A-123. We are almost finished with the testing cycle. We are working closely with PriceWaterhouse Coopers to meet all established deadlines.

DOE, Oak Ridge Financial Service Center

Chuck Champ

DOE Prompt Pay and penalty percentages continue to meet or exceed GAO targets.

GSA Awarded 4 master contracts on June 8th for the purpose of providing credit card program support for SmartPay of which DOE will be a party of Agency wide. DOE communication and contingency plans and other agency-wide requirements are being drafted at this time and are targeted to be completed within the next few months.

DOE is continuing to work on OMB A-123 orders.

Steve Isakowitz was sworn in on June 1, 2007 as the DOE CFO.

IRS, Beckley

Denise Goode

The GWA Modernization is one of our biggest priorities right now. We have been conducting research to determine what changes need made in our financial system and our operations to comply with the GWA requirements. Mike Norman visited our office to give us an overview of the requirements and provide insight on compliance and upcoming due dates. We have held conference calls with the FRB St. Louis to begin the process of establishing C-Keys for our deposit operations. We are working with our IFS Project Office to develop the documentation needed to change our accounting system to accept the TAS/BETC on all transactions. We are pursuing the possibility of becoming a GWA player on one of the smaller ALCs we

report on as a way to "get our feet wet" with GWA. We have a visit to BPD planned in July to see how they are handling being a GWA player for IPAC.

SSA, Baltimore, Treasury Operations Branch
Charone Garland

On behalf of SSA's Treasury Operations Branch (TOB) I would like to express thanks to the FMS/ CCB staff, for continuously helping TOB Analyst interpret online information related to the check claims process.

Since the last CAB meeting TOB welcomed new Analyst to the staff, TCIS (Integrated View) made the training process less tedious. It also provided a comprehensive view of SSI check payment details and payment history. The new Analyst found this quite helpful. TOB also looks forward to the implementation of the Recla-trace system, which at a later date will be a great asset to the SSI reclamation process.

I would also like give "KUDOS" to Lauren Ray for the wonderful job she does organizing the CAB meetings, I enjoy them and look forward to the upcoming meetings.

USDA, FSA, CCC
Beverley Anderson

CAB Meeting Update: Farm Service Agency Commodity Credit Corporation

The Farm Service Agency is continuing its efforts to align their systems toward the Department's Financial Management Line of Business (FM LOB). The effort known as FMMI will streamline and consolidate many of FSA's financial systems and ensure compliance with the Financial Systems Interface Office (FSIO) standards. The Payment Management Office (PMO) has responsibility for the consolidation of FSA's payment systems. In July 2007, PMO will implement the initial roll - out of the Online Payment (OLP) application. OLP will replace functionality currently supported by the AS400/System 36 Check Writing application. Once the application is fully implemented, all non-automated county office programs will be paid via the web. Any check payments generated from this application will be interfaced to Treasury for Disbursement. The beta site for the initial role out is the Washington D.C. office, if all goes well, FSA will implement a nation-wide release in the fall of 2007. FSA would also like to thank Gary Beets, Angela Romano, and the FMS staff for the excellent Certifying Officers training held in Kansas City back in May. There was nothing but positive feedback from those who were in attendance. FSA also had an opportunity to send two staff employees to the Check Claims Agency Meeting held in Beltsville, Maryland in April. It was great to hear other agencies share their experiences and to be able to ask questions about the check claims operation. The information received was invaluable. FSA has been working with FMS to gain access to the Treasury Check Information System (TCIS). Lauren has been very helpful in assisting us in working through the security issues.

Social Security Administration – Office of Systems
Denny Lessner

Electronic Claims Disposition Notice

SSA is progressing in working with the Department of Treasury in establishing a new interface between Hyattsville and SSA's Office of Systems. This new interface will provide the SSI program with an electronic transaction for any SSI recipient that alleges forgery. The system will further provide a notification of the forgery determination, any request for an appeal and the results of the appeal. SSA will receive the information and post it to the recipient's master record. This information will come in to play if the person subsequently reports nonreceipt and requests an immediate replacement of the benefit check. In addition, once this process gets in place and is working well, Treasury will be able to terminate sending the majority of paper Claims Disposition Notices to SSA.

Treasury was planning to begin sending the file on a regular basis early in FY08. SSA hopes to start posting and using this information in March 2008.

Payment Application Modernization (PAM)

SSA's Office of Systems is continuing to work with KCRFC in planning and testing the implementation of the SSI program into PAM software. According to the current schedule, Agency testing is slated for early December with project implementation in March 2008.